C O N C O R D I A U N I V E R S I T Y

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

M I N U T E S

(of SRC meeting held on Thursday, December 6, 1990
at 10:00 A.M., in Room BC-110, SGW campus)

ATTENDANCE -

Members present:	P. Albert, U. DeBrentani, E. Doedel, D. Ginter, M. Kusy, M. Lefebvre, J.N. Lightstone (Chair), K. Lipke, S. Sankar, J. Segovia, A. Williams, J. Makkonen, Nannette Plant (Secretary)
Absent with regrets:	D. Gold, B. MacKay, G. Mergen, J. Segovia M.N.S. Swamy,

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Prior to Meeting:

SRC-12-06-90-D119	Senate Policies and Procedures for the Establishment of Research Centres at Concordia University (J. Lightstone)
SRC-12-06-90-D120	Report on Faculty Research Development Programme Fall 1990 (J. Lightstone)
SRC-12-06-90-D121	Revised Draft of a Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of Research at Concordia (Version of 30 October, 1990)(J. Lightstone)
SRC-12-06-90-D122	Report of the ad hoc Committee on Research Computation - September 1990: A Report to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (J. Alan George, Chairman CORC, V-P, Academic and Provost, University of Waterloo)

Dr. Jack N. Lightstone occupied the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M.

1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by the Committee.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting were approved by the Committee.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The amended document (re: Policies and Procedures for the Establishment of Research Centres) is on the agenda for the Senate meeting tomorrow. The Chair assumes it will be approved.

The FRDP document was also sent to Senate for their information.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Report of the Director of ORS

A.J. Williams announced that a total of 26 applications were submitted to the Rector's office for the Seagrams fund. Results are not expected before the end of January at the earliest.

4.2 Report for the Associate Vice-Rector, Academic (Research)

4.2.1 The Chair informed the Committee that the conference of the Canadian Council of Graduate Studies will be held in Toronto, February 21-22, 1991 to discuss the report by the Royal Society on research at Canadian universities.

4.2.2 The Chair announced that the CASA funding has been made available and will be distributed through Faculty Research Councils. For those unfamiliar with CASA the Chair explained that these funds are made up of the the interest obtained from SSHRC, NSERC and FCAR and are funds held by the University, as well as funds from University Advancement. These are distributed according to the percentage of grants obtained from each faculty.

5.0 Draft Document: Enhancing Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity at Concordia (SRCJ-12-06-90-D121)

The Chair announced that the above draft document was the result of a preliminary draft submitted to the SRC in September. The document was revised based on comments from SRC and the Office of the Rector. It will be discussed at the meeting of the Office of the Rector on December 17, 1990 and will no doubt undergo further revisions as a result of these discussions and discussion by SRC. Therefore, no formal action is necessary by the SRC at this time.

Dr. Ginter requested that a table be appended to the document with examples of departments and their specific research profiles.

The Chair stated that each faculty and discipline has a specific set of criteria unique to their area. He also requested that the Committee keep in mind that this document is the framework for the plan and that concrete terms will be defined after the acceptance of the initial document.

Dr. Sankar suggested that seed money needs to be available to the "groups that would like to be formed" in order to formulate a cohesive group. He suggested that an internal competition should be held yearly with competitions amongst the following categories:

1) Groups that would like to be formed

2) Established Groups

3) Research Centres

Dr. Lightstone stressed that he had purposely avoided the issue of funding in the document. If goals and principals are established then funding can be found.

Dr. Albert used the FRDP program to illustrate the Chair's point. With agencies leaning towards team funding the university addressed the issue of individual funding through the creation of the FRDP. Originally this was a philosophy. Upon acceptance it became a reality and funding was found.

Dr. Kusy suggested modifications to Article 5a) on page 13.

Dr. Ginter made suggestions with regard to Article 9d) on page 11; prioritized list should be subject to periodic review.

The Chair noted that upon acceptance in principal a complimentary document will be required in order to implement this program.

It was moved by Dr. Ginter and seconded by Dr. Albert that the document be accepted in principle and that steps and procedures to see its adoption before the current academic year be implemented. The Chair stated that the motion would be registered with Senate.

6.0 VARIA

6.1 Text of the Presentation made by Madame Paule Leduc, President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Dr. Ginter notified the Committee that an associate, Mr. Philip Cercone, Editor of the McGill-Queen's University Press, had been present at the speech given by Madame Gail Larose on behalf of Mme. Leduc in Quebec City and that a number of contradictions arose between the speech given and the text submitted.

At the meeting the abolishment of the Social Science Federation for Scholarly Publications was suggested. Mme Larose also voiced a general attack on the suitability, feasibility and need for scholarly publications (books & journals). She implied that dissemination should occur in other ways, e.g. working papers.

Upon further discussion it was resolved that the Chair would send a letter on behalf of the SRC to CREPUQ for discussion of this matter at their meeting.

6.2 The next Senate Research Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 17, at 10:00 A.M,. in Room BC-110.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 P.M.